IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, second full paragraph, replace as follows

(A copy of page 4 showing the changes marked in red is attached hereto):

--Next, in an image joining section 6, the images (serving as input signals), which are corrected by the image correcting sections 17a to 17c, are joined to be a wide-angle image as shown in FIG. 20. Then, the joined image is output to a monitor 7, a printer 8 or a storage medium 9.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 11, 13 and 21, as follows:

1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:

image input means for getting a plurality of image parts dividing one composition such that the image parts have overlapping areas, each having the same image of an object in the overlapping area as in the overlapping area of the next image part;

correction parameter setting means for setting a correction parameter necessary to correct at least distortion of said plurality of image parts generated in each overlap area or a difference between the image parts, said correction parameter setting means being allowed to be manually operated by a user to set the correction parameter;

image correcting means for correcting at least one image part of said plurality of image parts in accordance with said set

-2-

15    correction parameter to eliminate at least distortion of said

plurality of image parts generated in each overlap area or the

difference between the image parts;

image joining means for sequentially joining the plurality

of image parts corrected by said image correcting means in said

20    overlap area to restore said one composition;

image display means for displaying at least said plurality

of image parts input by said image input means or said image

parts corrected by said image correction means; and

optical parameter setting means for determining, as an

25    optimal value, the correction parameter set by said correction

parameter setting means, when it is judged by the user from

display by said display means that correction is sufficiently

performed by said image correction means.

11.  (Amended) The image processing apparatus according to

claim 4, further comprising correction parameter storing means

for storing one or a plurality sets of said correction parameter

used in correcting said image in connection with the name of the

5    imaging apparatus used to take the image, and said correction

parameter setting means selects a desired set of correction

parameters from the correction parameters.

13.   (Amended)   An image processing method comprising:

an image input step of getting a plurality of image parts dividing one composition such that the image parts have overlapping areas, each having the same image of an object in the overlapping area as in the overlapping area of the next image part;

a correction parameter setting step of setting a correction parameter necessary to correct at least image distortion or image difference occurring in the overlapping areas of each image part, said correction parameter setting step being allowed to be manually operated by a user to set the correction parameter;

an image correcting step of correcting at least one of said plurality of image parts in accordance with said correction parameters, thereby to correct distortion of images or image difference occurring in at least the overlapping area of each image part;

a composition restoring step of restoring said composition by sequentially combining said plurality of image parts corrected, one to another, with overlapping the same at overlapping areas; and

an image displaying step for displaying at least said plurality of image parts input or said plurality of image parts corrected; and

an optimal parameter setting step for determining, as an optical value, the correction parameter set by said correction parameter setting step, when it is judged by the user from

-4-

~~display during said image displaying step that correction~~ is
sufficiently ~~performed by said image correcting step.~~

21.   (Amended)  A recording medium recording computer
programs for restoring an image by combining a plurality of image
parts divided from one composition, each image part having the
same image of an object in an overlapping area, said recording
medium recording:

5      an image inputting program for inputting said plurality of
image parts;

      a correction parameter setting program for setting
correction parameters indispensable for correcting image
distortion or image difference occurring in at least the

10    overlapping areas of each image part, said correction parameter
setting program being allowed to be manually operated by a user
to set the correction parameter;

      an image correcting program for correcting at least one of
said plurality of image parts in accordance with said correction

15    parameters, thereby to correct distortion of images or image
difference occurring in at least the overlapping areas of each
image part;

      a composition restoring program for restoring said
composition by sequentially combining said plurality of image

20    parts corrected, one to another, with overlapping the same at
overlapping areas; and

-5-

an image displaying program for displaying said plurality of images input, or at least one of said plurality of image parts corrected; and

an optimal parameter setting program for determining, as an optimal value, the correction parameter set by said correction parameter setting program, when it is judged by the user from display of said displaying program that correction is sufficiently performed by said image correction program.

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Submitted herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsperson requesting changes to Figs. 1, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23A, 23B and 23C as required by the Examiner in the Office Action.